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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Brian J. Reistad et al.

Art Unit : 2161

Serial No. : 09/054,180

Examiner : Huyng S. Sough

Filed : April 1, 1998

Title : ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM



Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed September 11, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 11 and 38.

Please amend claims 3, 12-14, 19, 20, 22, 23, 37, 39-41, 46, 47, 49, and 50 as follows:

-- 3. (Twice amended) An electronic commerce system, comprising:

a client computer; and

a server computer;

the client computer and the server computer being interconnected by a public packet switched communications network;

the client computer being programmed to transmit to the server computer an order acceptance request comprising a plurality of terms or conditions of a proposed offer for a purchase, the order acceptance request comprising a discrete message that includes a plurality of modular elements individually protected by cryptographic security codes, at least one of the modular elements individually protected by a cryptographic security code being a coupon;

the server computer being programmed to process the order acceptance request based on pre-programmed criteria, including authentication of the cryptographic security codes and examination of the modular elements of the discrete message individually protected by the cryptographic security codes, and, based on the processing of the order acceptance request, to transmit to the client computer an order acceptance response based on the pre-programmed criteria, the order acceptance response comprising a discrete message transmitted during a

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